

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace claim 33 by the following claim in clean form and add new claim

46.

33. (AMENDED) A method for preparing a liquid toner for a particular process of electrostatic development of electrostatic images, said particular process requiring a given level of toner charge, the toner comprising chargeable toner particles dispersed in a carrier liquid and at least one charge director, the method comprising:

providing at least one charge director;

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providing a toner precursor material comprising toner precursor particles dispersed in an insulating non-polar carrier liquid, the particles comprising a core material including a pigmented polymer suitable for use as a toner material in the particular process for electrostatic development of electrostatic images, but which is unchargeable by the at least one charge director or which is weakly chargeable by the at least one charge director to an extent that it is not useable in electrostatic development of latent images in the particular process;

coating the toner precursor particles with at least one ionomer component in an amount effective to impart enhanced chargeability to the pigmented polymer to an extent that the coated particles can be used to develop a latent electrostatic image in the particular process for electrostatic development of electrostatic images, thereby forming said chargeable toner particles, and

adding said at least one charge director, in an amount suitable for charging the chargeable toner particles to said given level.

46. (NEW) A method for producing a liquid toner for an electrostatic imaging method